CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method of transmitting a signal encompassing <u>an</u> <u>encoded</u> media object comprising the steps of: encoding <u>said</u> <u>video information of said</u> media object into said signal for transmission over a communications network;

receiving network communication parameters related to the status of said communications network;

adapting, responsive to said step of receiving network communication parameters, said encoding step using a neural network, wherein said adapting step comprises the operations of modifying a quantization level used to quantize said video information after a transform operation and is at least one of: bit rate shaping by adjusting the bit rate used for encoding said quantized video information said transmission of said signal, and modifying a quantization level used for said encoding of said signal.

- 2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said network communication parameters are: A. packet fraction loss; B. cumulative number of packets lost; C. inter-arrival jitter; and D. last sender report:
- 3. (previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein said communication parameters are received as Real Time Control Protocol system status information.
- 4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said signal is encoded into an MPEG compatible data stream.

Claims 5-10 (cancelled)